



Town of North Andover

Quarterly Newsletter

Message from the Town Manager, Mark Rees

April 2007
Issue 3

While considerable publicity has been recently generated regarding North Andover fiscal issues, many important projects have been moving forward without the same level of public exposure. Some of these initiatives include:

- Vehicular and pedestrian improvements to the Town's Old Center District began in earnest in 2006. Included in this project are the 'undergrounding' of utilities and the installation of street lights that enhance the historical character of this important part of town.
- Rezoning of portions of Route 114 to provide for continued opportunities to expand retail and commercial operations. Similar land use changes paved the way for the Eaglewood shopping mall and the Walgreens retail center currently under construction. Commercial and industrial growth is the key towards the town's long term economic viability.
- Working with Ozzy Properties, the owners of the former Lucent facility, to bring additional affordable housing to North Andover and possibly have the Town meet its obligation under

Chapter 40B, the state's affordable housing statute. Discussions are also taking place to bring retail and commercial development to this area of town.

- At the same time, North Andover is supporting economic development in appropriate locations in town, we are also continuing to preserve our rural heritage. In 2006 ten acres of additional land around Lake Cochichewick was purchased using Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, bringing the total acreage of protected land purchased by CPA funds to 104 acres.
- CPA funds have also been used in recent years to improve town parks and playgrounds, assist in developing affordable housing and protecting historical buildings such as the Town Hall and the Stevens Estate at Osgood Hill. As an aside, the Stevens Estate is a unique asset that North Andover owns and operates. It is a renovated mansion that is surrounded by acres of protected woodlands and is available for weddings, business outings and private parties.

Additional information about Stevens Estate can be obtained by going to www.stevensestate.com or calling 978-682-7072

- While not as glamorous as restored mansions, infrastructure improvements also play a key roll in the quality of life North Andover enjoys. One example of this type of work is the replacement of four plastic lined water storage facilities (think baggies placed in a hole in the ground) with two modern, concrete water tanks. These new tanks currently under construction will improve water quality, eliminate leaks and address security issues. In addition the town has begun the development of a waste water management plan to address the need for additional sewer capacity in North Andover.

None of these projects would have been possible without the leadership of the North Andover Board of Selectmen, the dedication of residents who serve on town boards and the hard work of town employees.

Message from Daniel O'Connor, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools

Dear Members of the Community,

The North Andover High School Band has been selected to represent the Veterans for the State of Massachusetts at the Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 28, 2007. Its selection was based upon the band's musical accomplishments. The students are presently working very hard on the music they will be playing. This is a national

event. The national news media will cover the parade.

Students are working hard to pay for their expenses. Each student will have to come up with about \$700 to get on the bus that leaves Town the day before the parade. Quite frankly, they need your help. By help I mean dollars.

If you are willing to help these worthy students by donating any funds at all to them,

please write a check to:

Music Department,
North Andover High School

Mail the check to: Lee Beatty, Director, Music Department, North Andover High School, 430 Osgood Street, North Andover, MA 01845.

Your attention to this request is greatly appreciated.

News from the Public Works and Recycling— \$250,000 and Counting

North Andover's solid waste tonnage continues to decline, and the savings in avoided tipping fees at the Wheelabrator plant on Holt Road has now exceeded \$250,000 since the start of vigorous enforcement of the existing state waste bans on placing paper and cardboard into the trash. Thanks to all the North Andover recyclers who have contributed to the success and keep up the good work.

The enforcement started two years ago on January 31, 2005. In the first year of the program, there was a reduction of over 100 tons per month being delivered to the incinerator compared to figures from the preceding 12 months. The reduction in tonnage continued at a slower pace this past year and actually increased for a time due to the households damaged by the "Mothers' Day Storm", however, the downward trend continued.

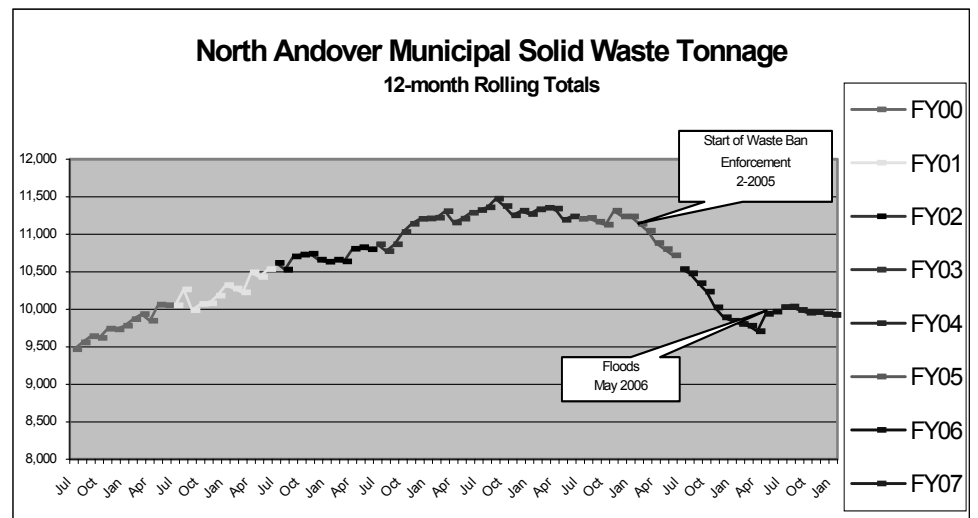
Regardless of waste ban enforcement, recyclers have also increased the amount of commingled containers (glass, tin, aluminum & plastic) placed in their recycling bins and removed from the waste stream by over 24% in the past two years. A total of 2700 tons have been removed from the solid waste stream in the past two years.

The market for recycled paper has also maintained a positive trend. Our income from the sale of paper is increasing on an annual basis and is

expected to exceed \$ 30,000 in 2007.

The increasingly successful recycling program is also helping to address the global climate change. For more information on how recycling can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions go to www.epa.gov and click on climate change.

For more information on North Andover's recycling and waste reduction program or ideas about how to increase your recycling visit our web site at www.NorthAndoverRecycles.com.



News from the Community Development Division

The Town of North Andover, through its Community Development office, was awarded a grant to review the downtown zoning district.

The Town received the \$28,400 Smart Growth Technical Assistance Grant from the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs to review the zoning and land-use patterns of

the downtown area.

The project has just begun and part of the review will include a workshop for residences and businesses located in downtown. The funding will be used to hire a consultant to review and identify zoning language that will look at creating a new downtown district that reflects smart growth and the redevelopment

of the downtown area as reflected by previous North Andover planning studies. Please contact the Community Development Office for details about the upcoming public workshop.

The grant funding expires on June 30, 2007. It is expected that this project will be completed at that time.

News from the North Andover Senior Center

Council on Aging/Senior Activity Center is a vital link in the service delivery networks which older persons and their families may avail themselves of. Council on Aging provides a multitude of services for seniors including, but not limited to: application assistance, social support, health and recreational services, medical screenings, wellness programs, meals and nutritional workshops. Councils on Aging are the gateway to help seniors and their families access many supportive services.

The three core responsibilities of the Elder Service Department are to identify the needs of older adults as well as available resources within the community; to educate the community at large regarding elder issues and advocate for the needs of its elders; and to de-

sign, promote and implement needed services and to coordinate the efforts of agencies which serve the elder community.

Additional responsibilities include being an active liaison with Fire Department, Police Department, Board of Health, and Housing Authority as well as making referrals to other agencies. The Elder Services Director and Outreach Coordinator are also mandated reporters for elders at-risk from abuse or self-neglect.

The Senior Center is a community focal point where older adults come together to participate in programs and activities that reflect their experiences and skills, respond to their diverse needs and interests, support their independence, develop their creativity and encourage their involvement in and with

the center and the community.

The dramatic increase in the 85 plus population in North Andover presents the Council on Aging with new challenges and greater demands to provide services and referrals. This has created a new generation of seniors who are caregivers for their aging parents.

During 2006, 283 Volunteers contributed 42,911 hours of service throughout the community. Total savings to the community was \$292,984.25

News from the Police Department

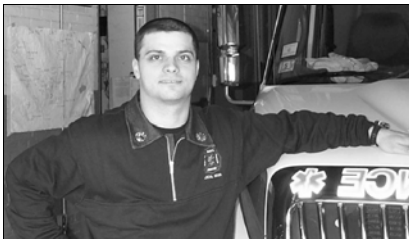
The North Andover Police Department offers our residents a computerized fingerprint system for those who are trying to obtain a visa, an adoption, professional licensing

and background checks. Please bring to the police station proper identification and the issued fingerprint card. A police officer will conduct a verification and take the residents

fingerprints for proper submittal. Call the police department at 978-683-3168 for an appointment.

New faces at the Fire Department

The Fire Department is happy to announce the appointments of FF Ryan Tit-



comb and FF Steve Sentementes. These welcome additions replace FF Mike Colbert and FF Dave Ford who each retired recently. Ryan is currently in training to be certified as an EMT and Steve is certified as an EMT. They can be seen around town training with the crews in hose handling, ladder placement, hydrant preparation and every other aspect of the job of being a Firefighter.

Although they are on the list to attend 12 weeks of recruit training at the Massachu-

setts Fire Academy it will be a while before their spots open up.



For more information on current Town projects and meetings, we encourage you to visit the Town of North Andover website at TownofNorthAndover.com.